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SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" Have the committees met after I sent notice of my interpellation three months back? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" The committees are meeting."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Sir, there are several cases in other jails where prisoners have signifid their loyalty to Government and have submitted representations for their release to the Government and I do not know what action has been taken."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" I am sure all these cases are taken up seriatim and are being examined with a view to their release."

Rules governing appointments in Government service.

* 169 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Premier be pleased to state—

(a) what the rules governing appointments to various services are in respect of (1) direct recruitment and (2) promotions from lower ranks;

(b) what the circumstances are under which direct recruitment to a service can be dispensed with;

(c) what the services are in respect of which Government can recruit themselves either directly or by promotion without the intervention of the Public Service Commission; and

(d) whether it is a fact that many appointments are being made under emergency provisions and even extension of time is being sought for such appointments without securing recruitment through the Public Service Commission?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN (on behalf of the Hon. the Premier) :—" (a) The hon. Member is referred to the rules contained in the Madras Services Manual, Volumes II and III which should be read with the general rules printed at pages 138–159 of Volume I of the manual. The manual is available for reference at the library of the Madras Legislature and also at the Secretariat Library.

" (b) The methods of recruitment prescribed in the various rules are invariably followed. If, in respect of a particular service or post, raw recruits will not suit, the method of recruitment will be by promotion within the service or by transfer from any other service.

" (c) The list of services and posts which have been excluded from the purview of the Commission is printed in Annexure I to the Madras Public Service Commission Regulations, 1937, at pages 11–13 of Volume I of the Madras Services Manual mentioned in the answer to clause (a). In respect of those services and posts, either the Government or the respective appointing authority prescribed in the concerned

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special rules makes the appointments. In respect of the other services and posts, the Madras Public Service Commission makes the selection.

"(d) On account of the situation created by the war and post-war periods, a large number of emergency appointments had to be made. Steps were and are duly taken to replace the candidates so appointed by regularly selected candidates. If, in any particular case the emergency appointment has to be continued for a period exceeding three months, the concurrence of the Madras Public Service Commission is duly obtained as required by the rules."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—"Are the emergency provisions applicable only to initial appointments or do they apply even to promotions?" 11-30 a.m.

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I think they are applied to initial appointments."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—"Is the communal rule applicable to emergency appointments also?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I think so."

Steps taken to prevent smuggling of foodgrains by sea to Ceylon.

* 170 Q.—SRI K. MANATHUNAINATHA DESIGAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state—

(a) the steps taken by the Government to prevent smuggling of foodgrains by sea to Ceylon;

(b) whether it is a fact that a certain vessel called 'Motor Launch' was purchased by the Government;

(c) if so, when and at what cost;

(d) to what use it was put and for how many days;

(e) whether it is a fact that a party of smugglers escaped in a motor launch very recently through the river Coleroon, in the Chidambaram taluk into the sea;

(f) what action the anti-smuggling police party took and with what results; and

(g) what further steps the Government propose to take to prevent smuggling effectively in future?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"(b), (c) & (d) No vessel by name 'Motor Launch' was purchased by the Government. But a motor fishing vessel named 'Tessa' was purchased by the Government about the end of the year 1946, at a cost of about Rs. 40,000. It was used for anti-smuggling patrol along the east coast of the Province from July to September 1947.

"(a), (e), (f) & (g) The Government regret that it is not in the public interest to disclose the information."